

April 30, 1999

2853 '99 MAY -4 P2:58

Dear Sir or Madam:


I strongly oppose the Draft Memorandum being proposed by the FDA. In particular, I object to the definition of "inordinate amount" which restricts the availability and the right to obtain medically necessary compounded medication by limiting the number of prescriptions that can be shipped across state lines from specialized compounding pharmacies.

I am a high school English teacher. For close to two years I suffered from heavy menstrual flow to the point that I had to leave my class in order to change pads. I could not make it through one 90 minute teaching block. My doctor worked closely with me attempting to alleviate the problem through synthetic hormones available through local pharmacies. At least six different dosage combinations were attempted over a 20 month time span, but nothing worked. In April of 1998 my flow was nonstop throughout the entire month. I became so anemic that the doctor thought I would need to be hospitalized for a blood transfusion.

This doctor instead wisely referred me to a gynecologist who fortunately knew of an out-of-state company that custom blended natural hormone prescriptions. Immediately such a customized natural blend was created for me. That was last May. This blend has been modified slightly through the team effort of doctor, pharmacy, and ME. My cycles have improved dramatically as has my overall physical and mental health. I can function normally even during my menstrual flow and no longer have to leave class.

To deny the availability of such a medical resource is a threat to my health and my well being. I respectfully request that this memorandum be discarded immediately. Please listen to those of us who have personally benefited from these compounding companies rather than to those large pharmaceutical corporations who are more concerned with profit increase than patient welfare.

Sincerely


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